



# POLICE COMMISSION

MINUTES OF MARCH 2, 2022

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

Manchester Police Department  
405 Valley Street  
Manchester, NH 03103

The Regular Monthly Meeting was held at the Manchester Police Department Community Room on March 2, 2022, at 9:00am, attended by:

**Commissioners** John Cronin (via zoom), Charlie Sherman (via zoom) and John Mercier

**Police Department Staff** Chief Allen Aldenberg, Captain Peter Marr, Captain Sean Leighton, Captain Shawn McCabe, Lieutenant Timothy Patterson, Sergeant Matthew Jajuga, Sergeant Emmett Macken and Diane Kingsbury (Admin. Assist.)

**Others attending the Public Session:** Manchester business owner and blogger Jeff Hastings

## 1. COMMISSION CHAIRMAN OPENING COMMENTS

- Commissioner John Cronin opened the meeting at 8:59 a.m., welcoming all those present.

## 2. NOTICES POSTED / APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- The Commission confirmed with Diane Kingsbury that the notices had been posted at the City Library as well as on the MPD's website homepage, event calendar, and via social media.
- Commissioner Cronin advised that there was some information that needed to be clarified in the February meeting minutes.

As it relates to the information that Captain Loui in the Legal and Professional Standards Division provided regarding the high number of sex offender registrations to date, Chief Aldenberg's comment was corrected to read: *Chief Aldenberg advised that January is typically the biggest registration month for sexual offenders who are required to register annually.*

The updated February meeting minutes will be forwarded to commissioners and also posted on the Manchester Police website.

- Commissioners present unanimously voted to approve the minutes from the 2/2/22 meeting, pending the correction of comments noted above.

## 3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Commissioner Cronin explained that each Manchester resident wishing to speak shall state his/her name and address, each will have only one opportunity to speak, and will be limited to three minutes in which to address comments on a particular subject to the Commission.

*No public comments*

## 4. DIVISIONAL REPORTS

### Patrol Division – Captain McCabe

- Patrol numbers on paper are currently at 104 assigned and is currently utilizing 95 officers divided into the three shifts.
- There are currently 8 officers on FTO. Seven of those officers have an approximate end date of the first week in April. There is one certified officer who came from Vermont and is currently on FTO and will also be ready for solo status in the beginning of April.
- K9 Oakley had his knee scope surgery and is now back in service.
- K9 Doug had hernia surgery on February 7<sup>th</sup> and is currently recovering and doing well.

### Special Enforcement Division – Sergeant Jajuga (for Captain Murphy):

- The Special Investigations Unit continues efforts to disrupt the possession and sale of illegal drugs in the City of Manchester. Currently, the division is engaged in several investigations with state and federal partners. The Nuisance Address Policy is effective and the expedition in the eviction process helps with compliance.
- The Street Crime Unit continues to address street level possession and distribution of illegal drugs in addition to investigating numerous problem locations reported by the public. Substance Abuse Reduction Grant selected Officers are performing exceptionally.
- The Anti-Crime Unit continues efforts to disrupt the illegal possession of firearms and investigate those individuals associated with gun related violence. The unit has several active investigations with state and local partners and continues to make arrests associated with gun violence and other related violent crimes.

### Questions/Comments/Discussion:

- Commissioner Cronin commented on the good work being done by this division.

### **Community Affairs Division – Sergeant Macken (for Captain Goodnow):**

- With the weather starting to get nicer, there will be more events coming up. Pending events within the next 30 days: **3/26** – Shamrock Half Marathon, **3/27** – Shamrock Shuffle and St. Patrick's Day Parade.
- Ward 4 Community Meeting at 6pm on 3/24 at Beech Street School.
- Community event the week of 3/21 – the Crime Prevention Unit will be assisting Meals on Wheels with food deliveries.
- Battle of the Badges will be on 3/13.
- Traffic Investigators still working on a fatal crash and several hit and run accidents.

#### **Questions/Comments/Discussion:**

- Commissioner Sherman inquired about the use of reserve officers for community events. Chief Aldenberg advised that reserve officers do assist with races and parades and that some are assigned within divisions to help out with cases, background investigations among other things. Reserves are required to do 8 hours of details (which can include races and parades) a month between the months of April and October which helps to fund the reserve account.

### **Administrative Division – Captain Marr:**

- Working hard to hire Dispatchers. Five interviews scheduled for today.
- Three interviews scheduled for tomorrow for Dispatch Supervisor position.
- We recently lost a Dispatcher who resigned and also gained a new Dispatcher.
- Preparing for CJIS audit in April.

#### **Questions/Comments/Discussion:**

- Commissioner Sherman inquired if the Dispatchers we hire come from other departments or do we 'start from scratch'. Captain Marr advised that we usually start from scratch due to the Dispatcher pay being less than most surrounding areas. Commissioner Mercier inquired if this lower pay is due to grading issues. Chief Aldenberg advised that the pay is established through contract negotiations. Commissioner Cronin commented that if the current pay levels can't get or retain Dispatchers, hopefully the union can negotiate higher pay into the contract. Chief Aldenberg advised that contract negotiations between the union and the city are happening now and that conversations with the Mayor and Alderman about this issue are ongoing.

### **Investigative Division – Captain Leighton**

- Personnel – Detective Amanda Smith has been reassigned to Detectives from Domestic Violence; Detective Lisboa has been reassigned from Patrol to Domestic Violence; Officer Hobbs has been reassigned from Detectives to Patrol.
- Detective Valenti is currently in Alabama for a 1-week Cyber Crime Investigations training. Detective Krawczyk will be heading down next week.
- Met with Nomad last week regarding the final design of the Crime Scene Van. It is now going into production and should be complete by the end of the summer.

### **Legal and Professional Standards Division – Lieutenant Patterson (for Captain Loui)**

- There are currently 9 officers at the Academy. All are doing well and are on track to graduate April 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- We currently have 251 sworn officers; 16 below our full complement of 267.
- Our latest hiring cycle has 13 candidates in the background process (1 certified, 12 uncertified)
- The Apex Simulator is set up and will be utilized department wide this month. This is a virtual reality simulator which allows officers to get familiar with scenarios they may deal with on the street.
- We are taking delivery of four BOLA Wraps this month. This is a remote restraint option which looks like a Taser and has a 7.5-foot string with barbs at the end used to incapacitate noncompliant subjects.
- 40-Hour training weeks will begin this month and will include the following topics: Tactical/trauma medical training (8 hours), Firearms qualification and skill builders (8 hours), Taser recertification and less lethal impact munition recertification and training (8 hours), Officer Wellness class (2 hours), Legal update class (2 hours), Defensive tactics training (4 hours), Autism, personal identification and de-escalation training (4 hours) Simunition scenarios (4 hours).

## **5. COMMENTS FROM CHIEF ALDENBERG**

- Assistant Chief Mangone is on vacation this week
- The 2021 Annual Report was released to the public last night and also presented to the Mayor and Aldermen. We are hoping that it helps to paint a picture of all the work being done at Manchester Police.
- We will be attending the CALEA Conference in Florida at the end of the month to receive our Accreditation award – it is a very rigorous process and we will share and release that information once it is received.
- Harmony Montgomery still remains a priority and everyone is working hard on this case every day.
- The Community Advisory Board meetings will be resuming with Eva Castillo. In April, we will be reaching out to appropriate community members to join. We are looking to cover one to two topics per meeting.
- In conjunction with the Manchester Health Department we have hired a Police Community Program Coordinator who will be starting on 3/15. Manchester Police Reserve Officer Ell, who is currently a School

Resource Officer at MST has been selected for this position and he will work with the Health Department to help increase community engagement. Officer Orr will be taking over Officer Ell's position at MST.

**Questions/Comments/Discussion:**

- Commissioner Sherman thought the Annual Report was fantastic and congratulated the department for all the hard work. Chief Aldenberg recognized that Lieutenant Barter and Crime Analyst Emily Cleary worked very hard on the report and he appreciates all the time and effort that was put into it.
- Commissioner Mercier also commented that he thought it was a great Annual Report which highlighted great results by the department. Chief Aldenberg also commented that it will be a good gauge to show and monitor our progress over a long period of time.

**6. COMMISSION ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS**

**7. TENTATIVE DATE OF THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING**

- Wednesday, April 6, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

**8. END OF PUBLIC SESSION**

- The Public Session ended at 9:24 a.m.